

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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L-03 H-01 OIC-02 HA-05 AGRE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02
/174 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2948
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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USEEC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECOSOC, OCON
SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC - AGENDA ITEM 13: CHARTER OF
ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES (CERDS)
1. MEXICAN RESOLUTION RECONFIRMING AND SEEKING IMPLEMEN-
TATION OF THE CERDS (TEXT BELOW), WHICH HAD EMERGED FROM
THE G-77 AS A DOCUMENT ONLY THE DAY BEFORE, WAS INTRODUCED
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IN FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE AUGUST BY COLOMBIA ON BE-
HALF OF THE G-77 AND APPROVED BY VOTE OF 41 -1 (US)-
6 (FRG, UK, FRANCE, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN).

2. FRG AND UK HAD WANTED TO VOTE "NO" BUT FELT COMPELLED
TO CHANGE TO ABSTENTION TO MAINTAIN EC-9 SOLIDARITY AND TO
KEEP NETHERLANDS AND ITALY IN LINE. (THE OTHER FOUR MEMBERS

OF THE EC-9 ARE NOT CURRENTLY MEMBERS OF ECOSOC.) WHEN WE TALKED TO THE MEXICAN REP (BARCELO) AFTER THE VOTE, HE DID NOT FAIL TO POINT TO THE "CHANGE" IN THE FRG AND UK POSITIONS, ALTHOUGH IN FACT WE THINK HE GOT LITTLE SATISFACTION OUT OF THE VOTE. OF THE EIGHT CURRENT MEMBERS OF ECOSOC WHO WERE AMONG THE 16 COUNTRIES THAT VOTED "NO" OR ABSTAINED ON THE CERDS, AUSTRIA (WHO ABSTAINED) WAS THE ONLY ONE TO VOTE "YES" ON THE CURRENT RESOLUTION. THE AUSTRIAN REP TOLD US LAMELY AFTERWARDS THAT HE HAD DONE SO BECAUSE THE RESOLUTION WAS "MEANINGLESS".

3. AFTER THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT A ROLL-CALL VOTE HAD BEEN REQUESTED (BY US), THE MEXICAN REP APPEALED FOR RECONSIDERATION SO THE RESOLUTION COULD BE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. JAMAICA AND COLOMBIA SUGGESTED CONSULTATIONS IF SOME COUNTRIES HAD PROBLEMS. WHEN THE CHAIRMAN TURNED TO US, WE STATED THAT TIME WAS SHORT, THAT DURING THE TWO OR THREE WEEKS WE GATHERED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS IN PREPARATION WE HAD NOT BEEN APPROACHED FOR CONSULTATIONS, AND THAT WE FRANKLY DID NOT SEE MUCH HOPE AT ARRIVING AT A REVISED DRAFT THAT COULD BE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS UNLESS THE DRAFT WERE COMPLETELY TURNED AROUND. FRG AND UK MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS. IN DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED, MEXICO EXPLAINED THAT G-77 PROCEDURES HAD PRECLUDED CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS PRIOR TO FINAL G-77 APPROVAL. FINALLY, MEXICO AND COLOMBIA CON-

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CEDED THAT THE VOTE SHOULD PROCEED. (WE EXPLAINED TO BOTH OF THEM AFTERWARDS THAT, SINCE THE WHOLE BURDEN OF THE RES. AFTER WAS ENDORSEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOMETHING WE HAD VOTED AGAINST, WE HAD NO OPTION OTHER THAN VOTING. BARCELO SAID HE HAD HOPED OUR POSITION HAD CHANGED.

4. AFTER THE VOTE THE US MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

QUOTE MY DEL. SINCERELY REGRETS THE NEED TO VOTE ONCE MORE ON A RES. OF THIS SORT. I FEEL SURE THE DRAFTERS OF THIS RES. ARE NOT SURPRISED AT OUR VOTE. AS IS WELL KNOWN, WHILE THERE IS MUCH IN THE CHARTER WITH WHICH WE AGREE, THE US VOTED AGAINST IT BECAUSE OF CERTAIN IMPORTANT PROVISIONS WE CANNOT ACCEPT. OUR POSITION ON THE CHARTER HAS NOT CHANGED, SO WE MUST VOTE SIMILARLY ON A RES. DESIGNED TO SEEK ITS REAFFIRMATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.

BY THE SAME TOKEN, MR. CHAIRMAN, TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS RES. ALSO SEEKS REAFFIRMATION AND APPLICATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GA, WE MUST ALSO REMIND THE COUNCIL THAT OUR POSITION ON THOSE

RESOLUTIONS REMAINS UNCHANGED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, MR. CHAIRMAN, AS WE HAVE EXPLAINED
BEFORE, WE MAKE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THOSE SPECIFIC RESO-
LUTIONS AND THE BROAD, EVOLVING CONCEPT OF WORKING TOWARD
A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER - AN ORDER THAT IS NOT
SET IN CONCRETE BUT THAT EVOLVES FROM THE PROGRESSIVE
DECISIONS OF THE UN SYSTEM AND WHICH IS THE FRUIT OF IDEAS
CONTRIBUTED BY ALL MEMBERS AND GROUPS. WE DO SUPPORT THIS
CONCEPT.

END QUOTE

5. BRAZIL REITERATED RESERVATIONS ON ARTICLE 3 OF CERDS
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(SHARED NATURAL RESOURCES). FRG, ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9 COUNTRIES, RECALLED THE LATTERS' POSITIONS ON THE CERDS, WHICH CONTAINED MANY ACCEPTABLE BUT SOME UNACCEPTABLE PROVISIONS, AND SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY ALSO DISAGREED ON ATTEMPT TO LINK THE NEW IDS TO THE NIEO DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION. SWEDEN AND INDIA RECALLED THEIR ORIGINAL CERDS RESERVATIONS. CUBA ACCUSED CERTAIN DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES OF "INTRASIGENCE" AND "OBSTRUC-

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TIONISM". COLOMBIA SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE G-77, SAID THE NIEO AND CERDS HAD BEEN ADOPTED AND HENCE REPRESENTED A MANDATE THAT WAS NOT SUBJECT TO INTERPRETATION AND THAT SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AS CALLED FOR IN THE RESOLUTION; HE HOPED THE DIALOGUE WOULD CONTINUE. JAPAN, WHILE SYMPATHIZING WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, STATED ITS PREVIOUS POSITION REMAINED UNCHANGED. (WHILE NOT SPEAKING IN COMMITTEE, AUSTRIA IN PLENARY AUGUST 4 STATED ITS "YES" VOTE DID NOT MEAN ANY CHANGE IN ITS ORIGINAL POSITION ON PARTICULAR ARTICLES OF THE CERDS - SEPTEL).

6. COMMENT: WE THINK THAT OUR STATEMENT, IN ADDITION TO ADDRESSING THE CERDS, TAKES CARE OF THE DESIDERATUM OF RESTATING OUR POSITION ON THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION NIEO RESOLUTIONS FROM TIME TO TIME, AT LEAST FOR THIS ECOSOC.

7. RESOLUTION TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE RECALLING GA RESOLUTIONS 3201 (S-VI) AND 3202 (S-VI) OF 1 MAY 1974, WHICH CONTAIN THE DECLARATION AND THE PROGRAM OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND WHICH LAY THE STRESS ON THE FACT THAT THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES IS AN EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT TO CREATE A NEW SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS BASED ON EQUITY, THE SOVEREIGN EQUALITY, MUTUAL INTEREST AND THE COOPERATION OF DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES,

RECALLING GA RES 3486 (XXX) OF 12 DEC 1975, BY WHICH THE ASSEMBLY DECIDED TO ENTRUST THE ECOSOC WITH THE TASK OF REVIEWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES, AND BEARING IN MIND ARTICLE

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34 OF THE CHARTER, BY WHICH THE GA DECIDED TO UNDERTAKE ITS SYSTEMATIC AND COMPREHENSIVE CONSIDERATION.

CONVINCED OF THE NEED FOR THE COUNCIL TO PROMOTE CON-
CERTED INTERNATIONAL MEASURES FOR THE ACCELERATED ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL PROGRESS OF ALL COUNTRIES, IN PARTICULAR THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN TOWARDS
THE ELABORATION OF THE THIRD INTERNATL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
AND PROGRAM OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NIEO,

NOTING WITH CONCERN THE SLOW PACE OF THE PROGRESS MADE
IN THE SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE ISSUES CONCERNING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIEO, AND IN PARTICULAR THE CHARTER OF
ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES,

1. EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN AT THE LACK OF PROGRESS MADE
IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIEO ON THE BASIS LAID DOWN BY
RELEVANT GA RESOLUTIONS AND THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS
AND DUTIES OF STATES;

2. URGES ALL COUNTRIES, IN PARTICULAR THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES, TO INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS, THROUGH DIALOGUES
AND NEGOTIATIONS IN THE VARIOUS FORUMS OF THE UN SYSTEM,
IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT SPEEDY RESULTS IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES;

3. URGES ALSO THE SYG TO RENEW AND INTENSIFY EFFORTS IN
ORDER TO MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION WITH A VIEW TO OBTAINING
A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS OF THE
NIEO, AND THE RELEVANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF
GIVING FULL RESPECT AND APPLICATION TO THE PROVISIONS OF
THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES;

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4. TAKES NOTE WITH INTEREST OF THE STATEMENTS MADE BY
REPS OF STATES AT ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1978, AND

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REQUESTS THE SYG TO SUBMIT TO THE GA AT ITS 33RD SESSION,
A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER
OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES. END QUOTE
VANDEN HEUVEL

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